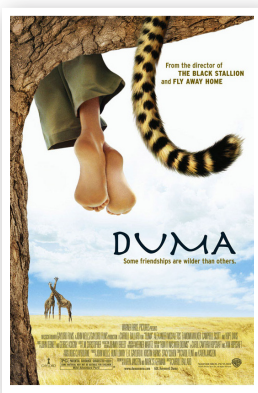


## DUMA



### Synopsis

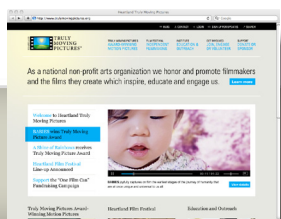
There is a cheetah named Duma and an intrepid young boy named Xan, who faces the true test of love when he must cross the whole of Southern Africa to return his best friend to his rightful home in the wilds. On his journey, Xan learns that everything always changes, but not love.

### Discussion Questions

- In South Africa, the people say that when you name something it becomes your responsibility. Have you ever had a pet? What did you name it and why? Who took care of it most of the time?
- Xan's father always reminded him that Duma would have to go "home" some day. Why was living with Xan and his family not home? What reminded Xan of the importance of making sure Duma got back into the wild?
- Xan and his traveling partner, Ripkuna, used many different survival skills that each of them had learned to get through the salt flats and then through the mountains. What were they? Do you think you could survive in such an environment?
- Some of the sounds that Duma made were average cat sounds (purring and hissing) but he also squeaked. Xan's explanation for this was that he made this sound when he was separated from other cheetahs. However, he made that sound when he was also separated from Xan. Do you feel like he thought Xan was just another cheetah? If so, how would you explain his reaction to Xan trying to take his share of food in the desert (which Duma found)?
- This quest to return Duma to the wild was a way for Xan to begin to heal from the death of his father. What sorts of things do you do to heal from a very sad situation?



Find out what other people are saying about this film and discover how they are using the guide!  
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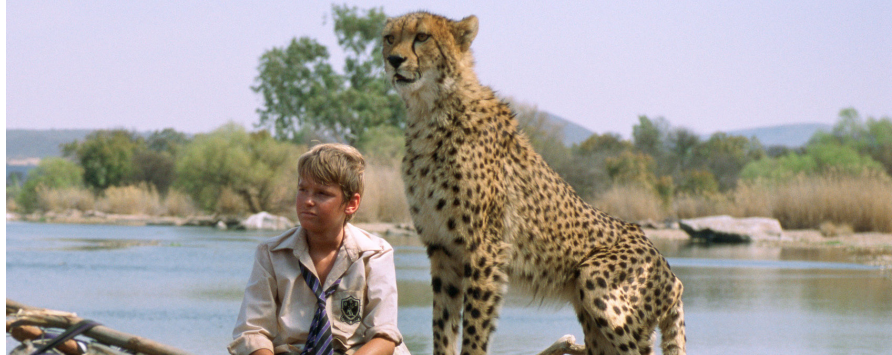


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### Activities

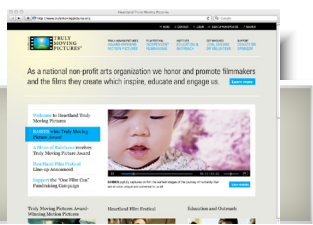
- Get a small pet, like a fish or a hamster, and name it. This means that you are ultimately in charge of it (according to Xan). Learn as much as you can about your animal and the best way to care for it. Some ideas for your research include learning if these animals were ever wild before humans domesticated them and understanding what was their life was like in the wild.
- Take a trip to the nearest zoo to observe the big cats. What about them do you notice is similar to an average housecat? In addition to cheetahs you can observe lions, leopards and jaguars.

### Get Involved

- In the film we saw the result of a Tsetse Fly attack. Ripkuna's reaction was severe swelling all over his body. He probably would have died had it not been for the help of his fellow villagers. One way that people have prevented this type of attack is through Tsetse Fly traps. Work with a local group in your area that aids Africa and either donate the supplies to make these traps or build them yourself and donate the finished product. You can send some with the group on their next trip or shipment. Instructions on making a trap can be found here: [www.wonderhowto.com/how-to-make-tsetse-fly-trap-090937](http://www.wonderhowto.com/how-to-make-tsetse-fly-trap-090937)
- Animals like Duma get separated from their parents regularly. There are groups that help to rescue wildlife and attempt to do the same thing Xan did. They raise the animals and release them back into the wild after teaching the animals the skills they will need to survive. Donate time or money to one of these wildlife rescue groups in your area.



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